Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 09368 311949Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 L-02 H-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9358

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 9368

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, AR (TALAMANTE, OLGA)

SUBJ: TALAMANTE CASE

REF: BA 9291

1. CONSUL WILKINSON AND MY SPECIAL ASSISTANT ROSENTHAL TRAVELED TO AZUL AS SCHEDULED DEC 30 TO MEET WITH TALAMANTE AND THE OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN PRETRIAL EXAMINATION OF THE CASE. FOLLOWING ARE MAIN POINTS OF THEIR REPORT:

A. JUDGE HOPES TO RECEIVE FINAL DOCUMENTATION IN THE CASE TODAY DEC 31. THIS WILL PERMIT HIM TO DECIDE WHETHER IN FACT A VIOLATION OF THE LAW HAS OCCURRED. FYI: JUDGE LEFT NO DOUBT THAT SUCH VIOLATION HAS OCCURRED. HOWEVER AS HE NOTED LOCAL IMPORTANCE OF PARENTS OF SOME OF THE OTHERS ARRESTED IS CAUSING HIM TO PROCEED WITH EXTREME CAUTION AND FAIRNESS. END FYI.

B. EVEN THOUGH GOA COURT SYSTEM MORE OR LESS CLOSEDDURING SUMMER MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, JUDGE STATED THAT CASE WILL BE PROCESSED AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE.

C. IN CASE GROUP WANTED COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY, ONE WOULD BE PROVIDED FROM LOCAL COURT LIST OF ATTORNEYS, WHICH INSCRIBES ALL LOCAL ATTORNEYS ON A ROTATING BASIS.

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 09368 311949Z

D. IN 90 MINUTE MEETING IN PRIVATE OFFICE AT AZUL PRISON,

TALAMANTE INFORMED EMBASSY OFFICERS THAT:

A. SHE AND HER GROUP EXPECT TO OBTAIN SERVICES OF TEAM OF LAWYERS WHO RECENTLY WON ACQUITTAL IN A SIMILAR CASE. SHE EXPRESSED NO INTEREST IN A SEPARATE ATTORNEY AT THIS TIME.

B. SHE IS IN MAIL COMMUNICATION WITH BOTH PARENTS AND FRIENDS AND IS AWARE THAT THE LATTER GROUP WILL RAISE FUNDS FOR AN ATTORNEY IF NEEDED.

C. SHE HAS NO COMPLAINTS AGAINST HER TREATMENT, OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT THERE IS LITTLE OPPORTUNITY FOR RECREATION AND EXERCISE. THE LATTER POINT, SHE NOTED, IS IMPORTANT SINCE THE HIGH CALORIC INTAKE FROM A HEAVY BEEF DIET IS CAUSING HER TO GAIN WEIGHT.

D. SHE HAS NO REQUESTS FOR ANY TYPE OF USG ASSISTANCE AT THIS TIME.

- 2. THE EMBASSY HAS HAND DELIVERED A LETTER TO THE PROVINCIAL CORRECTION AUTHORITIES REQUESTING THAT TALAMANTE BE EITHER ALLOWED TO TELEPHONE COLLECT HER PARENTS OR THAT THEY BE ALLOWED TO TELEPHONE HER.
- 3. PHONE CALL FROM COURT SECRETARY JUST RECIEVED. HE STATED ENTIRE GROUP HAS BEEN "REMANDED" TO PRISON. SENTENCE TO BE SET AT FUTURE DATE. APPEAL POSSIBLE, DETAILS TO FOLLOW. HILL

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Message Attributes

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